Docket N .: SCHMITT-13 S rial No.: 10/047,486

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER INDENTIFIERS

 (Currently amended) A method of securing a rod-shaped part in a surrounding holding member, comprising the following steps:

fabricating a flat holding member having opposite side edges formed with elements configured for interlocking engagement;

bending the side edges of the holding member upwards;

shaping the holding member into a cross-section in accordance to a cross section of the rod-shaped part;

[[Inserting]] inserting the rod-shaped part into the holding member; and press-fitting the holding member about the rod-shaped part to permanently connect the holding member to the rod-shaped part.

- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the opposite side edges are beveled towards one side so as to form an inner side and an outer side, with the inner side having a surface area which is smaller than a surface area of the outer side.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the bending step and the shaping step are implemented by a roll forming operation.

PACE 5/13 * RCVD AT 11/17/2003 3:34:46 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/1 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:2722442233 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-28

Docket No.: SCHMITT-13 Serial No.: 10/047,486

 (Curr ntly amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the press-fitting step includes at least two pressing operations which act on the holding member at positions offset to one another by [[in]] 90° [[offset relationship]].

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the rod-shaped part has a radial profile.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the rod-shaped part has a thread.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the rod-shaped part is a threaded rod.

(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the rod-shaped part has a circular cross section.

Claims 9-17 (Canceled)

4